

Seasons

The following waters are open to fishing for chinook salmon during the periods listed. Waters not specifically designated below shall remain CLOSED to fishing for chinook salmon unless opened by Commission action.

**Snake River** from the Southway Bridge\* (see “Locations” section of pamphlet) upstream to the Heller Bar concrete boat ramp.\*

- **SEASON:** April 24 until further notice or May 31, whichever comes first.

**Snake River** from the Dug Bar boat ramp\* upstream to Hells Canyon Dam.

- **SEASON:** April 24 until further notice or August 1, whichever comes first.

**Mainstem Clearwater River** from the Camas Prairie Railroad Bridge at Lewiston upstream to the South Fork Clearwater River, excluding the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery at Ahsahka, and excluding the ladder to the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery as delineated by posted boundaries approximately 100 yards upstream and downstream from the ladder, and to a boundary approximately 50 yards into the river channel.

**North Fork Clearwater River** from its mouth upstream to Dworshak Dam, excluding the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery at Ahsahka.

**Middle Fork Clearwater River** from the South Fork upstream to the confluence of the Lochsa and Selway rivers.

**South Fork Clearwater River** from its mouth upstream to the confluence of American and Red rivers.

- **SEASON:** April 24 until further notice or August 1, whichever comes first.

**Lochsa River** from its mouth upstream to the Twin Bridges immediately upstream from the confluence of Crooked Fork and Colt Killed Creek.

- **SEASON:** May 29 until further notice or August 1, whichever comes first.

**Lower Salmon River** from the Hammer Creek boat ramp\* upstream to a posted line at the mouth of the Little Salmon River at Riggins.

- **SEASON:** April 24 until further notice or June 20, whichever comes first.

**Little Salmon River** from a posted boundary at the mouth of the Little Salmon River upstream to U. S. Highway 95 bridge near Smokey Boulder Road.\*

- **SEASON:** April 24 until further notice or August 1, whichever comes first.

Limits

**Daily and Possession Limits—Snake River and Clearwater River Drainage:** 2 per day, 6 in possession.

**Daily and Possession Limits—Lower Salmon River and Little Salmon River:** 3 per day, 9 in possession.

**Season Limit—Snake River, Lower Salmon River, Little Salmon River, and Clearwater River Drainage:** 20 per season for all waters combined.

No person shall take more than one daily bag limit in one day. No person shall possess more than one possession limit. No person shall take more than 20 chinook salmon statewide with a single salmon permit.

Methods of Take

- A. It is unlawful to use any hook larger than 5/8 inch measured from the point of the hook to the shank.
- B. Fishing prohibited after attainment of limits. Once an angler has attained his bag, possession or season limit on those waters open to salmon fishing, he must cease fishing for salmon, including catch and-release fishing.
- C. Chinook may be taken only with barbless hooks. Bending the barb down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook will meet this requirement.
- D. It is unlawful to take or attempt to take salmon by snagging.
- E. In the Lochsa River, salmon may only be taken with artificial flies and lures with one barbless hook per fly or lure (no bait). A single hook may have up to 3 points.

Fishing Hours

**Snake, Salmon, and Little Salmon Rivers and the Clearwater River Drainage:** Fishing for chinook salmon is permitted only from ½ hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset, local time.

**SNAGGING:**

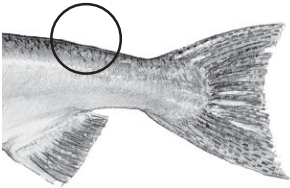
**During any open salmon season, it is unlawful to take or attempt to take any fish by snagging. Snagging shall mean the taking or attempting to take a fish by use of a hook or lure in any manner or method other than enticing or attracting a fish to strike with, and become hooked in, its mouth.**

*IDFG adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or handicap. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of IDFG, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; or The Office of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.*

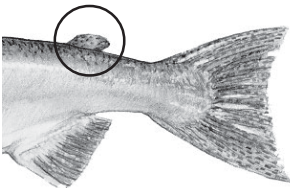
Costs associated with this publication are available from IDFG in accordance with section 60-202, Idaho Code. 4-04/35,000/31801

Special Rules

- A. It shall be unlawful to fish in any waters while having fish in possession which violate rules for those waters.
- B. No person shall have in the field or in transit any chinook salmon from which the head or tail has been removed (Unless the fish has been commercially processed).
- C. All fish that are hooked, landed and not immediately released shall be counted in the limits of the person hooking the fish.
- D. Only hatchery chinook salmon with a clipped adipose fin (as evidenced by a healed scar) may be kept. All salmon with a non-clipped adipose fin must be immediately released.

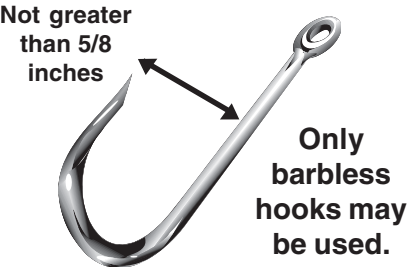


Hatchery salmon may be kept if the adipose fin has been clipped.



Wild or hatchery salmon with adipose fin **MUST** be released immediately.

All successful and unsuccessful anglers that encounter an IDFG check station are required to stop.



Not greater than 5/8 inches

Only barbless hooks may be used.

IDAHO 2004  
Spring Chinook  
Salmon  
Seasons & Rules

Snake River, Lower Salmon  
River, Little Salmon River &  
Clearwater River Drainage



Licenses and Permits

Resident Fishing License .....	\$ 23.50
Nonresident Fishing License (Season) .....	\$ 74.50
Nonresident Jr. Fishing License (Season) .....	\$ 12.50
3-Day Salmon/Steelhead License (includes a 3-Day Permit) .....	\$ 28.50
Salmon Permit (License Required) ...	\$ 11.50

Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
Steven M. Huffaker, Director  
P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707  
Phone: (208) 334-3700  
[www2.state.id.us/fishgame](http://www2.state.id.us/fishgame)

**Citizens Against Poaching**  
**1-800-632-5999**

General Information

Licenses, Permits

Everyone, except those expressly exempt, must have a valid fishing license and salmon permit in possession to fish for salmon, except Free Fishing Day, June 12, 2004.

Any person, age 14 and older, who does not qualify as a resident must purchase either a Nonresident Season Fishing License and Salmon Permit, a Nonresident Junior Fishing License and Salmon Permit, or a 3-Day Salmon License to fish for salmon.

In order to qualify for resident status, a person must be domiciled in the state for at least six months.

Children under the age of 14 (*including nonresidents*) are exempt from purchasing salmon permits. They may fish without permits if they are accompanied by a valid permit holder, provided that any fish kept must be recorded on the permit holder’s card and counted in the permit holder’s legal bag and possession limit. Any resident child under 14 may purchase a permit so that he/she may catch his or her own limit of salmon. Any nonresident child may purchase either a Nonresident Junior Fishing License and Salmon Permit or a 3-Day Salmon License to fish for salmon so that he/she may catch his or her own limit of salmon.

2004 Idaho Salmon Fishing Rules

Consult the 2004-2005 Fishing Seasons and Rules brochure for other regulations relating to fishing, license costs and other Department information.

**Chinook Salmon:** Adult anadromous (ocean run) salmon of the species *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* found in the Snake River drainage below Hells Canyon Dam, the Salmon River drainage and the Clearwater River drainage, excluding lakes and the North Fork of the Clearwater River above Dworshak Dam.

**Jack Salmon:** Adult chinook salmon under 20 inches in total length are commonly called jack salmon.

**Permits:** Any person fishing for or harvesting chinook salmon must have a valid salmon permit in possession. However, when a salmon is released unharmed, as in catch-and-release fishing, the angler is not required to make an entry on the permit.

**Permit Validation:** When a chinook salmon has been hooked, landed and reduced to possession, the angler hooking the fish must immediately:

- A. Cut out and completely remove one numbered notch from the permit; and
- B. Look up the location code number from the list below and write it in the space provided; and

C. Enter in the space provided, the month and day the fish was caught.

For example, a chinook salmon kept from the South Fork Clearwater River on June 25 would be entered as:

FISH	BIRD	MONTH	DAY	LOCATION	CODE	MONTH	DAY	LOCATION	CODE	FISH	BIRD
1		6	25	S	07					20	
2				P				F		21	
3				R				A		22	
4				I				L		23	
5				N				L		24	
				G				I			

REMOVE NOTCH COMPLETELY!

RIVER LOCATION CODES	
See Seasons section for full description of fishing boundaries	
Snake River	
Southway Bridge to Heller Bar boat ramp .....	01
Dug Bar boat ramp to Hells Canyon Dam .....	02
Clearwater River	
Clearwater River, Railroad Bridge at Lewiston upstream to Orofino Bridge <sup>1</sup> .....	03
Clearwater River, Upstream from Orofino Bridge .....	04
North Fork Clearwater River <sup>1</sup> .....	05
Middle Fork Clearwater River .....	06
South Fork Clearwater River .....	07
Lochsa River .....	08
Lower Salmon River	
Hammer Creek to Little Salmon River .....	11
Little Salmon River	
Little Salmon River .....	20

<sup>1</sup>**Clearwater Special Restrictions**  
Mainstem—Fishing from the shoreline along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited.

North Fork—Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited. Fishing from any watercraft or wading is prohibited between the posted line approximately 150 yards upstream from the mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River to the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge. When fishing from the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge, it is unlawful to take or attempt to take any fish downstream of the railroad bridge. Fishing from the railroad bridge is prohibited.

It Is Unlawful

The following acts are unlawful by statute or commission rule. They are listed here for your information. Please consult Title 36, Idaho Code, or the 2004-2005 Idaho Fishing Seasons and Rules for exact wording and complete listing.

It Is Unlawful:

- To refuse to produce license or fish for inspection upon request by a conservation officer.
- To fail to stop and report at check stations that have been established to inspect licenses and fish and game.
- To put any substance not attached to a hook into the water for the purpose of attracting fish (chumming).
- To possess, transport or use as bait any live fish.
- To catch any part of another person’s bag limit, EXCEPT in the case of license-exempt persons fishing for salmon and steelhead.
- To transport for another or accept as a gift any game fish, unless a statement signed by taker accompanies the fish, showing the number and kinds, the date taken, the taker’s name, address and fishing license number.
- To claim ownership to more wild game or fish taken within the state of Idaho than allowed by established possession limits.
- To ship any fish by commercial carrier unless the outside of the package is marked as to the number and kinds of fish and the package contains a written statement showing the taker’s name, address and fishing license number.
- To use seines, dip nets, spears, snag hooks, or any other contrivances in taking any fish from the waters of the state EXCEPT as allowed by Commission regulation.
- To deposit chemicals, poisons or explosives in attempting to catch or destroy fish.
- To waste game fish.
- To sell fish without a permit.
- To take or attempt to take a salmon by snagging, or to keep a salmon that has been snagged. A salmon that is snagged must be released immediately, unharmed back into the water.
- To keep a salmon hooked in any part of its body other than the mouth or jaw.

Salmon caught in a legal manner must be either released or killed immediately after landing.

\*Locations

(The following information is for general reference only.)

**Southway Bridge, Snake River:** The Southway Bridge crosses the Snake River between Lewiston and Clarkston about 1 mile upstream from the Clearwater River.

**Heller Bar boat ramp, Snake River:** Heller Bar boat ramp is located on the Snake River about 23 miles upstream from Lewiston and about a ½ mile downstream of the Grande Ronde River. It can be reached by travelling upstream from Lewiston/Clarkston on the Washington side.

**Dug Bar boat ramp, Snake River:** Dug Bar boat ramp is located about 6 miles upstream from the mouth of the Imnaha River, which is a tributary on the Oregon side of the Snake River approximately 52 miles upstream from Lewiston, Idaho. By car, travel east from Joseph, Oregon on the Little Sheep Creek Road to the town of Imnaha. Turn left (downriver) on the lower Imnaha Road and travel about 25 miles on the mostly gravel road to the end at Dug Bar boat ramp.

**Hammer Creek boat ramp, Lower Salmon River:** Hammer Creek boat ramp is located about 34 miles downstream from Riggins and 1 mile downstream from Whitebird Creek. Exit west off of Highway 95 at the Hammer Creek boat ramp sign, which is about 1½ miles south (upstream) of the town of Whitebird. Cross the Salmon River and travel downstream (north) to the boat ramp.

**Smokey Boulder Bridge, Little Salmon River:** The Smokey Boulder Bridge is a Highway 95 bridge which crosses the Little Salmon River about 24 miles upstream (south) from Riggins and about 5 miles upstream (south) of Hazard Creek. Coming from New Meadows, the bridge is about 10½ miles downstream (north) from New Meadows.

**Railroad Bridge, Clearwater River:** The Camas Prairie Railroad Bridge crosses the Clearwater River about ½ mile upstream from its confluence with the Snake River and about 1¼ miles downstream from the Memorial Bridge (Highway 12), which crosses the Clearwater River at Lewiston.

